

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

NEA-10 OIC-02 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /138 W

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P R 231525Z JUL 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1785

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 5909

ACTION STR

H PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: TROPICAL PRODUCTS CONSULTATION - NIGERIA

REF: MTN GENEVA 2968

1. AT REQUEST OF NIGERIAN DEL (ADEWAKUN), U.S. DEL (GRAEF) MET JULY 21 IN FOLLOW-UP TO APRIL 13 TROPICAL PRODUCTS (TP) CONSULTATION. ADEWAKUN SAID HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS AUTHORITIES, AND NIGERIA WAS OPPOSED TO ANY RECIPROCITY IN THE TP GROUP. IN ADDITION, HIS AUTHORITIES HAD NOT, AT THIS POINT, DECIDED WHETHER THEY WOULD MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OVERALL MTN.

2. ADEWAKUM ALSO PROVIDED FOLLOWING CLARIFICATION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NIGERIA'S IMPORT REGIME WITH RESPECT TO INEDIBLE TALLOW

(TARIFF NUMBER 15.02B), THE ONE ITEM ON WHICH THE U.S. WAS SEEKING A CONTRIBUTION FROM NIGERIA. WHILE CONFIRMING THE CURRENT DUTY, HE INDICATED THAT OVER 75 PERCENT OF U.S. EXPORTS OF THIS ITEM TO NIGERIA WERE EXEMPT FROM DUTIES UNDER NIGERIA'S "APPROVED USER SCHEME". HE EXPLAINED THAT IMPORTERS APPLY TO THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE FOR CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION AND, ONCE APPROVED, THE IMPORTER WOULD IMPORT THE ITEM EXEMPT FROM DUTIES WITH NO TIME LIMIT OR QUANTITATIVE LIMITATION.

3. NIGERIAN DEL RETIERATED THAT THE ACTUAL TREATMENT GIVEN TO INEDIBLE TALLOW ILLUSTRATED THE POINT HE HAD OFTEN MADE THAT NIGERIA HAD RECENTLY SIGNIFICANTLY LIBERALIZED IMPORTS AND, THEREFORE, SHOULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO MAKE ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MTN. OTHER EXAMPLES HE CITED WERE THE REVISION OF THE NIGERIAN TARIFF AND THE ELIMINATIONS OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS, INCLUDING EMBARGOES, ON ALL BUT TEN PRODUCTS.

4. MTN DEL INDICATED APPRECIATION FOR CLARIFICATION OF U.S. REQUEST, WHICH WOULD BE REPORTED TO WASHINGTON AGENCIES FOR ANY FURTHER COMMENT. MTN DEL ALSO STRESSED THAT THE U.S. CONTINUED TO FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT IT WAS BOTH APPROPRIATE AND NECESSARY FOR THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TP NEGOTIATIONS IN CONSIDERATION FOR MFN TARIFF CONCESSIONS THAT WERE IN THEIR TRADE INTERESTS. WALKER

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Message Attributes

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